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Online Seminar

Landscape and Democracy

Session 1

Section A: Landscape and Democracy: Mapping the Terrain

A.1: Concepts of democracy: Evolution and perspectives

Thursday, 31st of March 2016

15 30 – 17 00 PM CET



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Agenda

- 1. Welcome and introduction to the LED Project**
Dr Deni Ruggeri, NMBU Norway, NO
- 2. Concepts of democracy: Representation versus deliberation**
Dr Ellen Fetzer, HfWU Nürtingen-Geislingen, DE
- 3. Seminar process and assignments**
- 4. Outlook on the next session**

LED Project | partners

Norwegian University
of Life Sciences

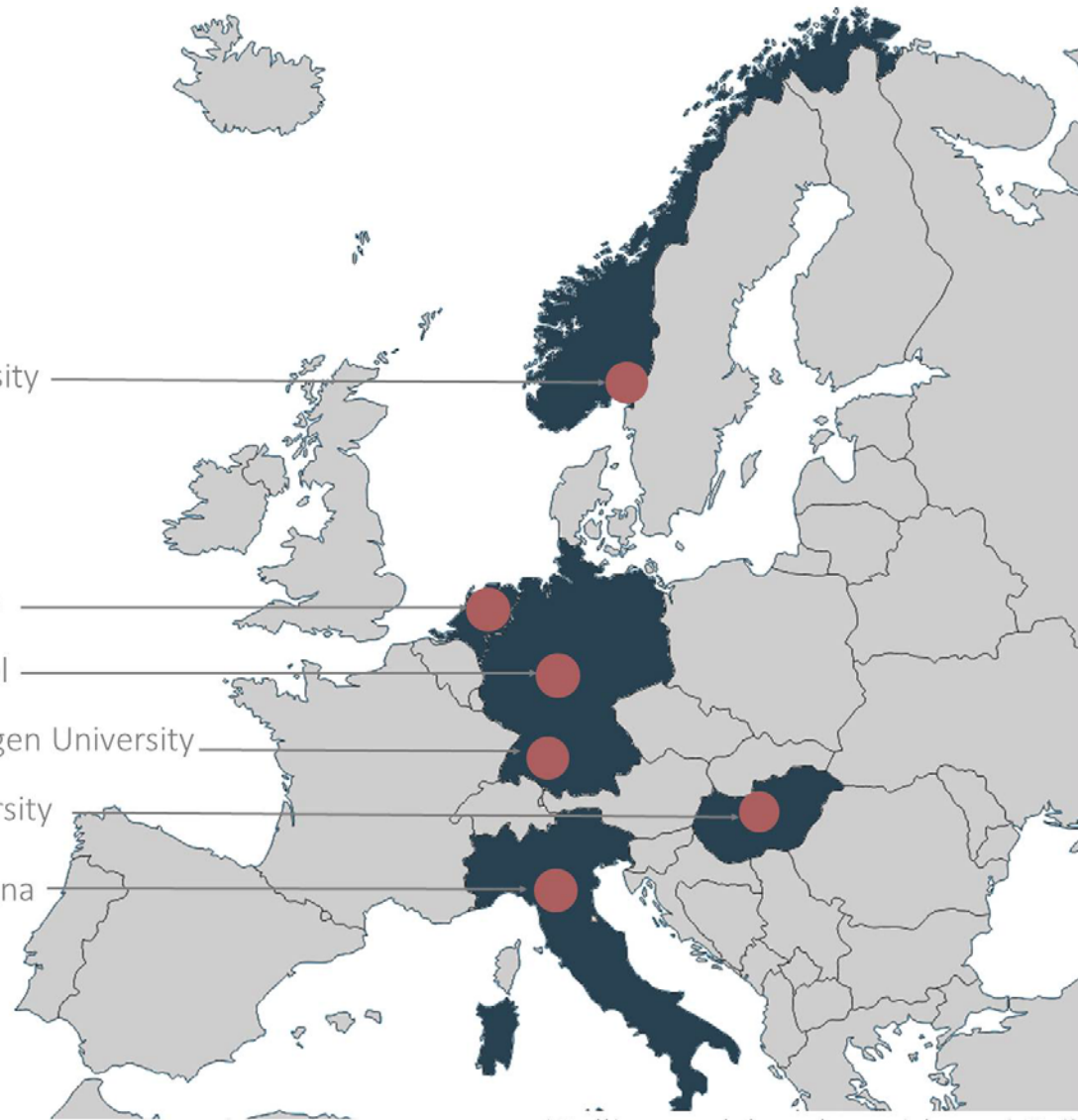
LE:NOTRE Institute

University of Kassel

Nürtingen-Geislingen University

Szent István University

University of Bologna



<http://d-maps.com/m/europa/europemin/europemin09.gif>



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Our project team

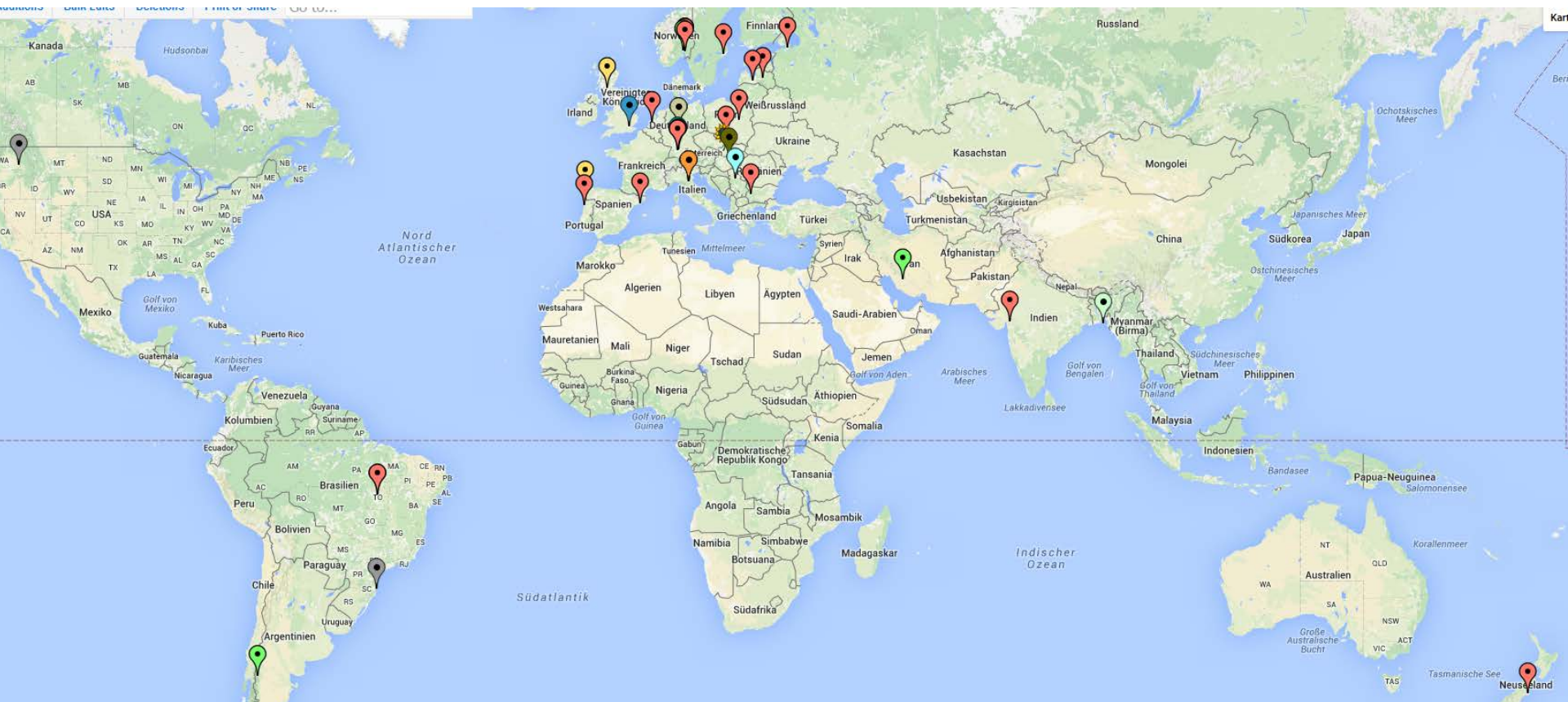




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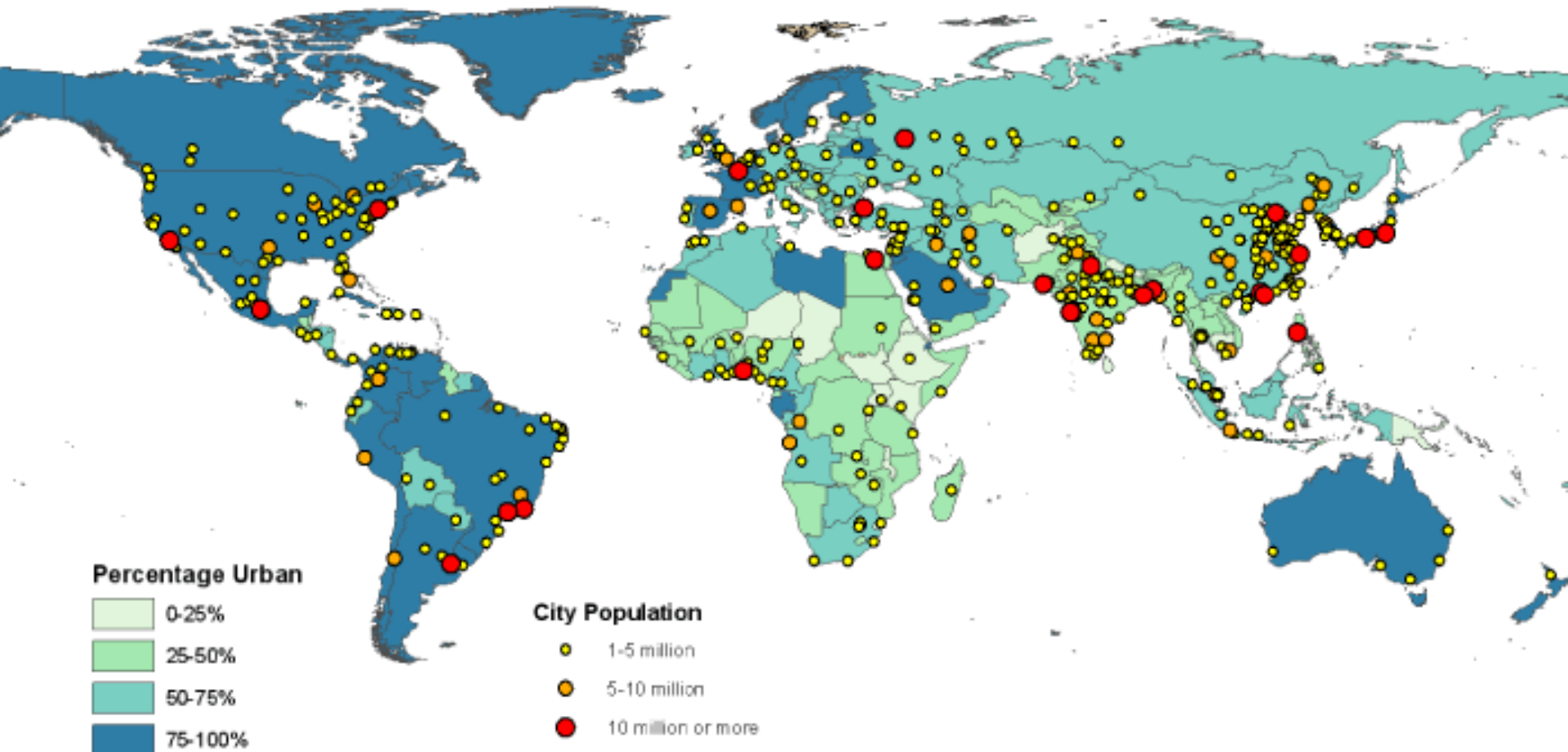
Participants' map 'Landscape and Democracy' Seminar

Status: 31st of March 2016





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United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division: World Urbanization Prospects, the 2011 Revision. New York 2012



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<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>



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Goal 11 : Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.3

By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.7

By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities


<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg11>

European Landscape Convention

“

‘Landscape’ means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors

”

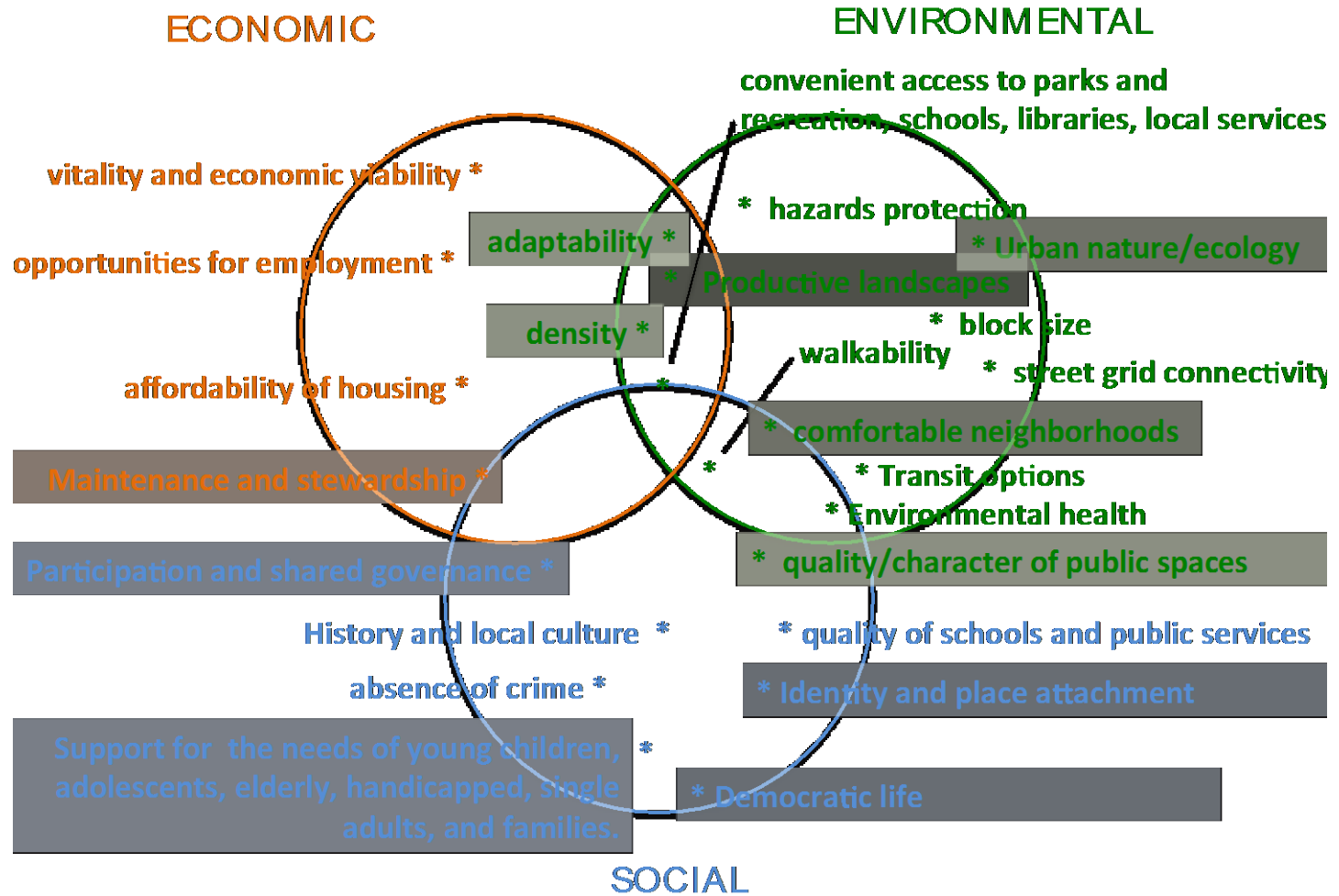


“BIOPHILIA: “the innately emotional affiliation of human beings to other living organisms. Innate means hereditary, and hence, part of ultimate human nature”

(Wilson, 1993 p.31)



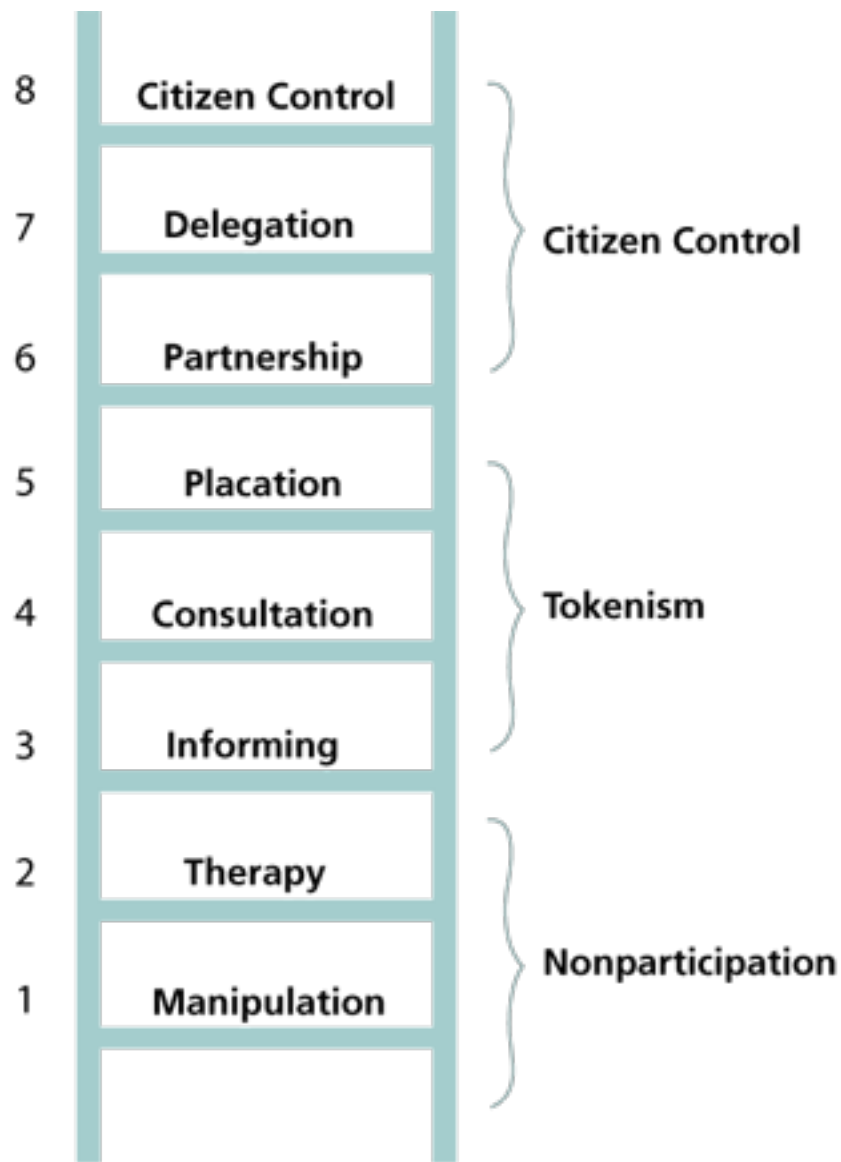
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Southworth's (2003) livability dimensions superimposed on Canter's "place" definition (1977)



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Arnstein, S, A Ladder of Citizen Participation (1969)



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LED Project | relevance

- **European Landscape Convention** | landscape as infrastructure for community life/identity
- **Participation/stewardship** | importance of citizen involvement in spatial planning
- **Landscape as democratic resource** | the 'right to landscape'
- **Spatial planning education** | lack of opportunities to engage in participatory planning and processes in design and curriculum
- **Bottom-up design and planning** | need for designers & planners to effectively work with communities they serve
- **Redefining expertise** | from expert knowledge to native wisdom



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Thematic overview of our semiar topics

Phase A: Landscape and Democracy - Mapping the Terrain

Phase B: Concepts of Participation

Phase C: Community and Identity

Phase D: The Design Process

Phase E: Communication

Phase F: On site Intensive Programme/Workshop in Zingonia, Italy

Intensive Study
Program|
June 19-29, 2016



The on-site design workshop will focus on the application theories and methods from the on-line course to envision sustainable community redevelopment solutions to a landscape challenge. The workshop will engage an international, cross-disciplinary group of students to work in partnership with municipalities, community groups and residents

Your seminar tutors



Tonje Stordalen

Federica Fuligni

Sophie Bittner

Mirsa Gishti

Irene Jackson Gil

Ivana Lilik



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Section A: Landscape and Democracy: Mapping the Terrain

A.1: Concepts of democracy: Evolution and perspectives





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Etymology of the term 'democracy':

Greek: δημοκρατία (*dēmokratía*) "rule of the people"

from δῆμος (*dêmos*) "people"

and κράτος (*krátos*) "power" or "rule"



Collective decision-making started with humans having a common concern about their resources – in the landscape

Pre-modern forms of collective decision-making: the Greek Agora

From *polis* to politics: the urban landscape as collective framework



By A.Savin (Wikimedia Commons · WikiPhotoSpace) - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=27948211>

Pre-modern forms of collective decision-making: the thing place



Reconstructed Thing in Gulde, northern Germany, Image by Clemens Franz, creative commons, share alike

Pre-modern forms of collective decision-making: Uthiramerur

Democracy is not a European invention

The inscriptions on the Uthiramerur temple in India reveal the existence of a rural self-governance system between 900 -1100 AD.



Source: Wikimedia Commons



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Landscape and territory

The German term *Landschaft* (*landscape*) referred in the Middle Ages to the *people living in a territorial unit* and the related territorial estates.

Landscape was thus **both** a territorial **and** a political term.

Its cultural/geographical meaning developed later

→ *we will come back to this next week*



Bauern bei der Heumahd, aus dem Stundenbuch des Simon Bening (um 1483-1561)
<http://www.rheinische-geschichte.lvr.de>

Culmination of centralised power in the 17th century

A landscape built on forced labour and slavery: ethics or aesthetics?



At the eve of 'freedom and equality'

The image of nature reveals the dream of a new society



Petworth Park, England, designed by Capability Brown around 1750

The ideal landscape reminds of the ,commons', but the boundlessness is an illusion



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A common will for the common good?

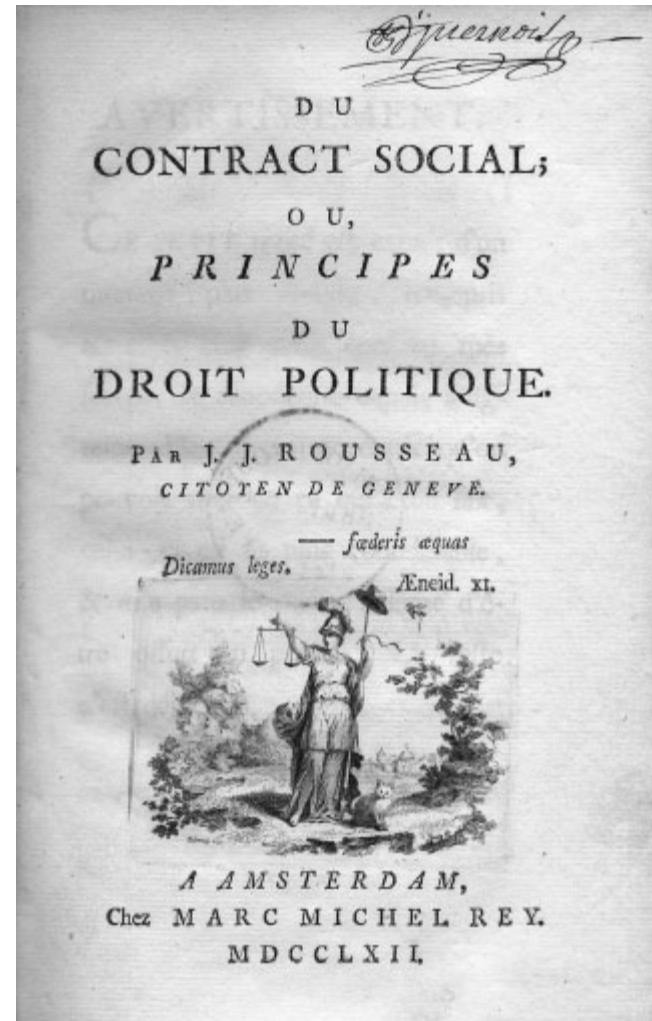
In the middle of absolutism Jean-Jacques Rousseau suggests an **ideal state**.

The **social contract** assumes that:

- The ‚general will‘ is absolute and given
- The ‚general will‘ protects the common good and is therefore always fair and justified
- Everybody freely accepts the social contract

Rousseau's approach is idealistic with the **common good** as the core value.

However, contemporary (liberal) democracy theories will place the **discourse of controversies** at their core.



**Of the Social Contract,
or Principles of Political Right**
Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1762



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The long path...

The idea of the **nation state** predominates the 19th and 20th centuries

Democracy becomes an **ongoing political project** with varying success, following the US, British and French lead examples

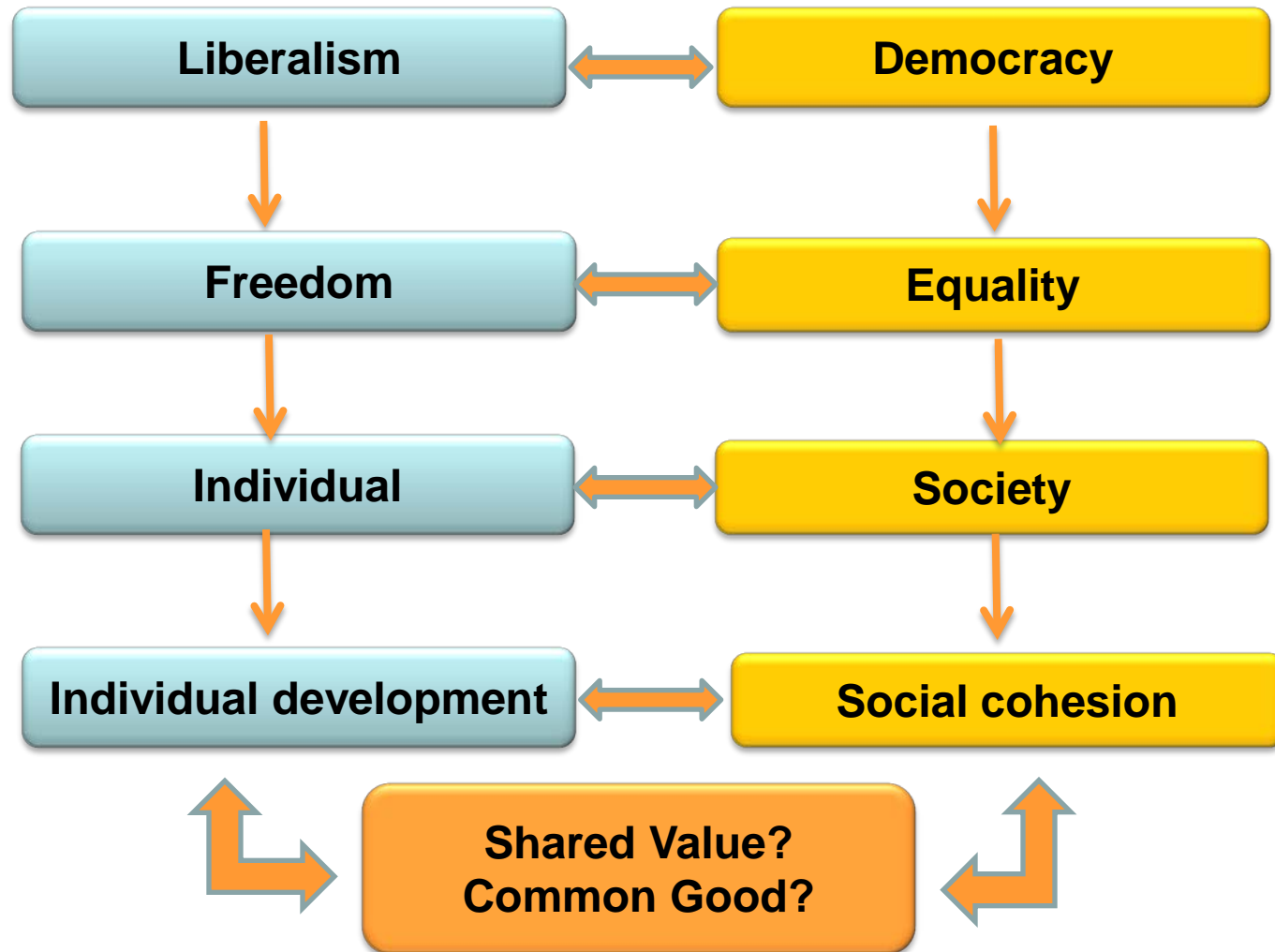
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) finally builds the **common ground** for all democratic UN members

→ Democracy gradually transforms into a system **related to the nation state** only

→ The former notion of **‘coexistence + codecision’** in a territory has become less evident due to the complexity of these systems



Democracy vs Liberalism





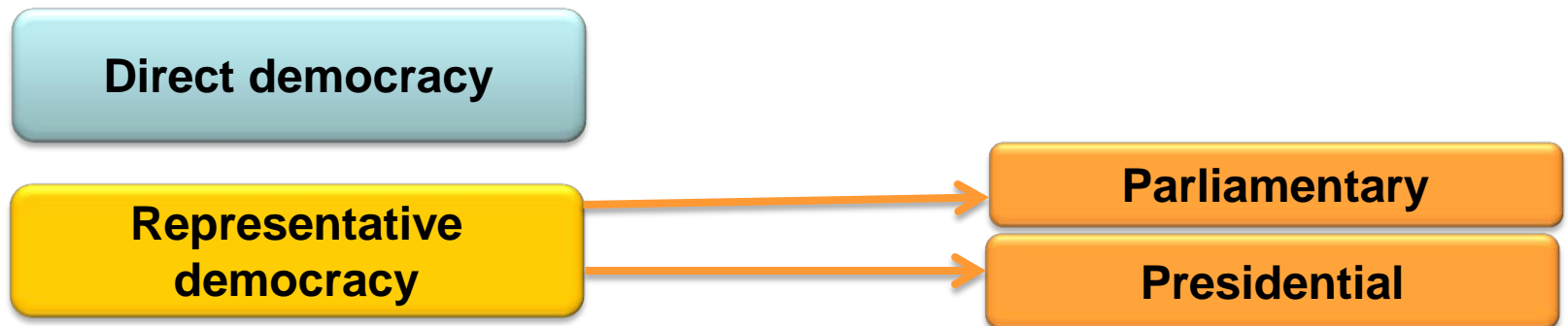
Core characteristics of contemporary democracies

- Free, equal and secret votes
- Separation of powers
- Freedom of association and expression, free media



But: the role of participation? → ,under construction‘

Contemporary democracy types

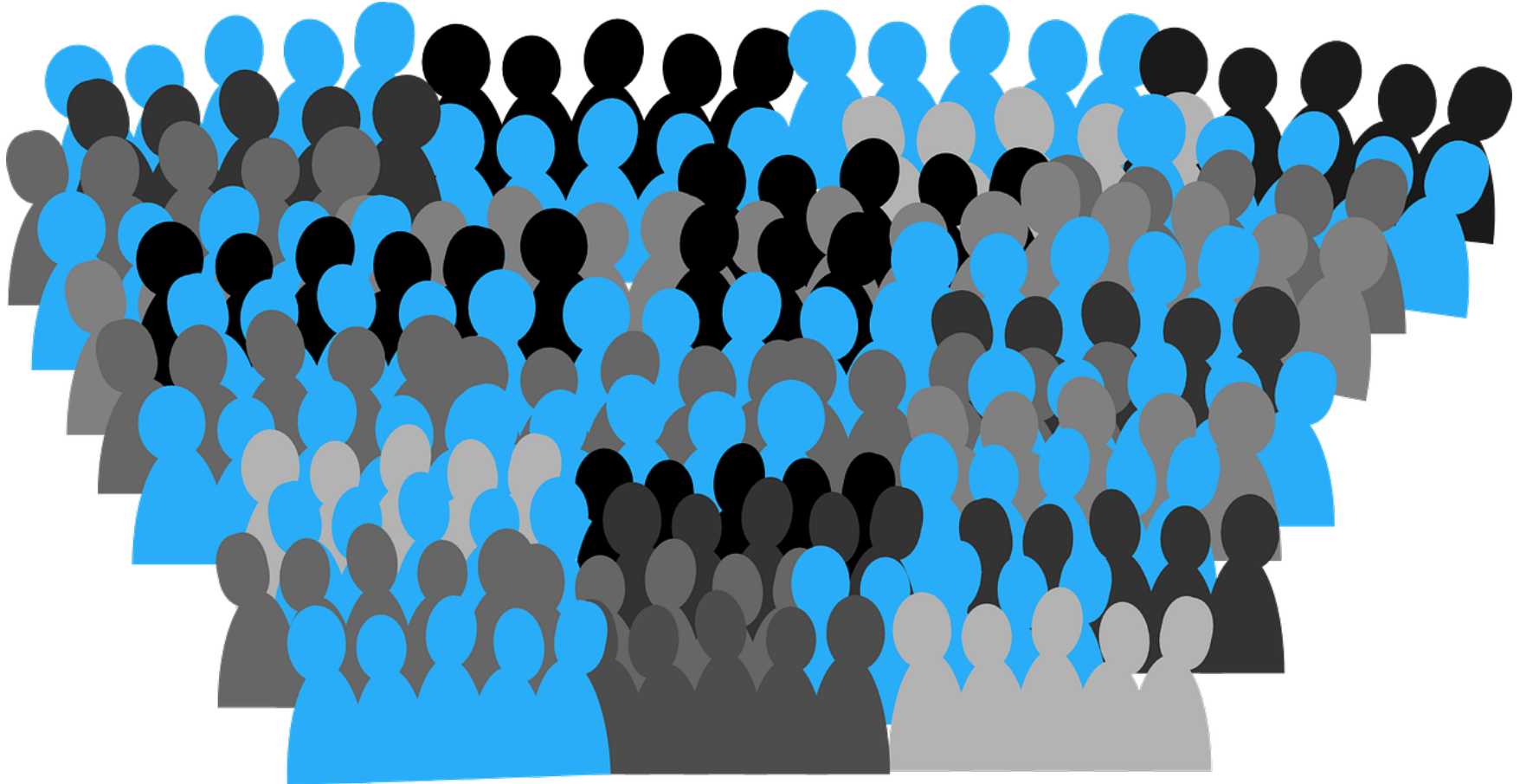




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Representative democracy

Most democratic countries are governed by representative democracies.

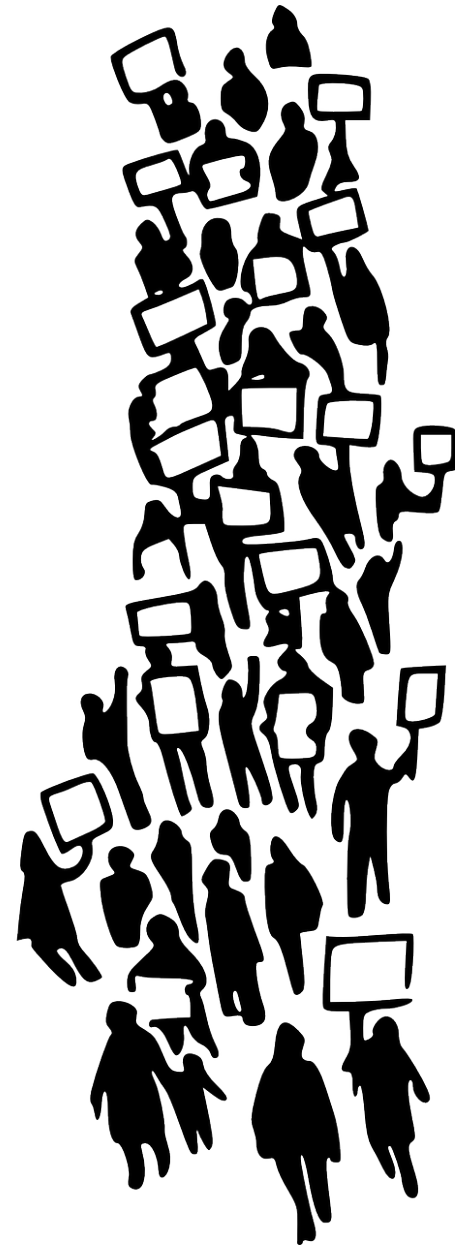




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The **dilemma of a representative democracy** is its inherent danger of losing the confidence of the people 'on the ground' in the course of the election periods.

Local knowledge might be relevant for making reasonable decisions.





The 1960's and 1970's in Germany:
„The solutions of the past became the problems of today.“

Lucius Burckhardt, image: <http://www.urbanophil.net>

Germany 2013: Stuttgart 21 protests were a result of lacking involvement of the public
– and yet: the referendum result was in favour the project.
www.bei-abriss-aufstand.de





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Criticism of the representative democracy

A strong criticism of the representative democracy was introduced by Benjamin Barber in 1984 in his book ***Strong Democracy: Participatory Politics for a New Age***.

He considers representative democracy as 'thin', individualistic, 'liberal' - preventing the numerous possibilities for **self-governance** and **co-definition of the common good**.



Benjamin Barber

Source: Wikimedia commons
by Erich Habich, CC BY-SA 3.0

“At the heart of strong democracy is talk.” p 173



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Deliberative democracy as a third way?

Deliberative democracy places the discourse at the heart of the democratic process, which in theory would replace voting.

The idea is that the collective decides after deliberation on the basis of the **best argument**. This requires:

information, active listening, reflexive value construction

→ very relevant for our **era of pluralism**, but also has limits

Jürgen Habermas, Between Facts and Norms (German: Faktizität und Geltung, 1992)

The limits of democracy:

Landscapes have become the arena of global challenges

But: Who wins and who loses? And who decides?





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What is a fair decision?

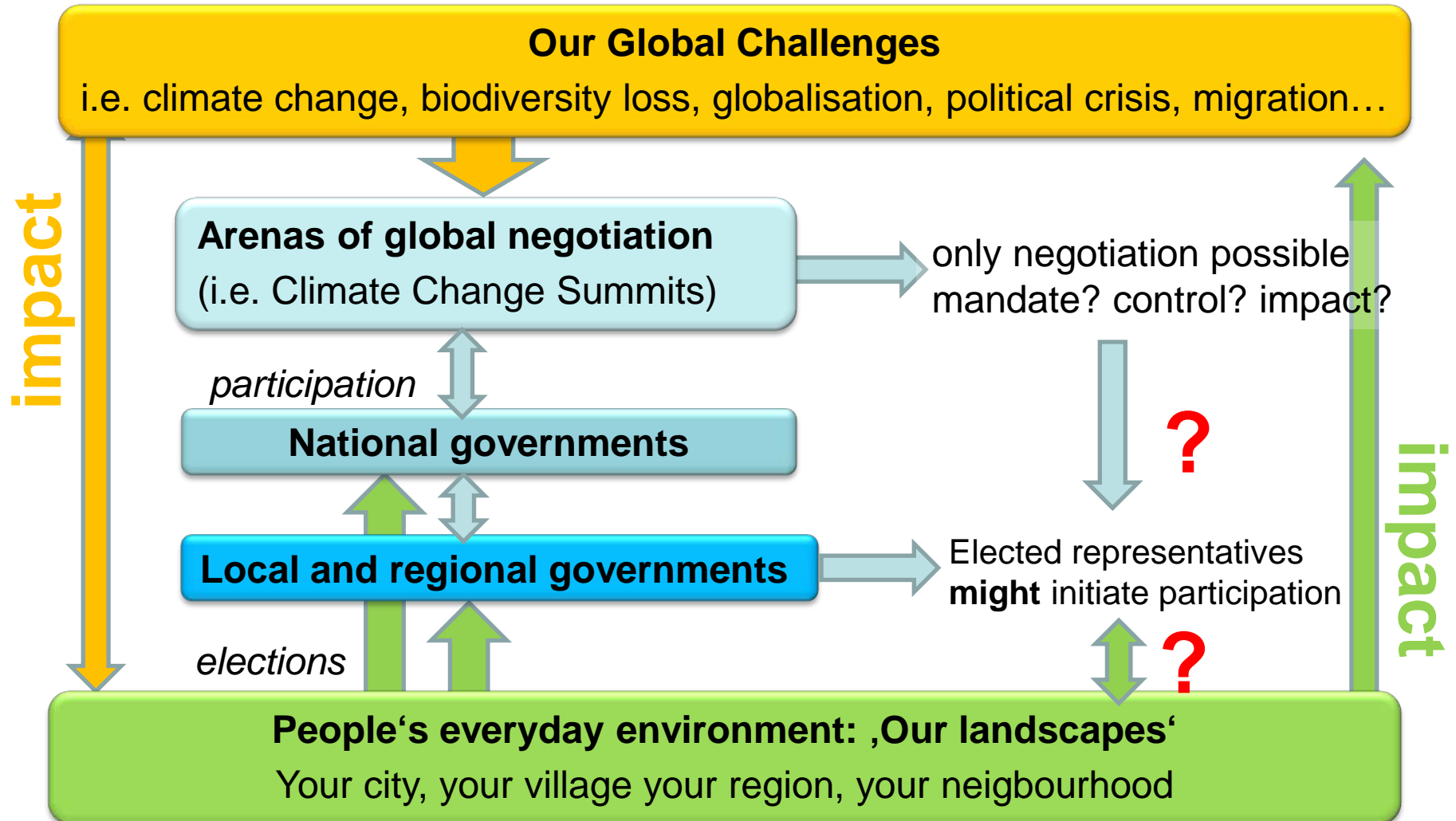


Difficult negotiations each year at the Climate Change Summit



Democracy in a globalised world

Coexistence of different arenas and rule systems



International drivers for landscape democracy and public participation



Creating our futures

ECTP-CEU

European Council of Spatial Planners
Conseil européen des urbanistes



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*„Landscape" means an area, **as perceived by people**, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors;”*



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



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„*This convention ... covers
natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas.
It includes land, inland water and marine areas.
It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding
as well as **everyday or degraded landscapes.***



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE
COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Landscapes of possibilities can be found in our everyday environment



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General Measures:

...C

to establish procedures for the **participation of the general public**, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies.....

The convention basically wants landscape to become a **policy objective**. It does not tell us in detail how to do this (subsidiary principle).



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Interaction 1

Please reflect on this sentence:

*„In my country, the public is well involved
in making decisions on our landscapes.“*

Yes or no?



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Interaction 2

*If you said **no**, why?*

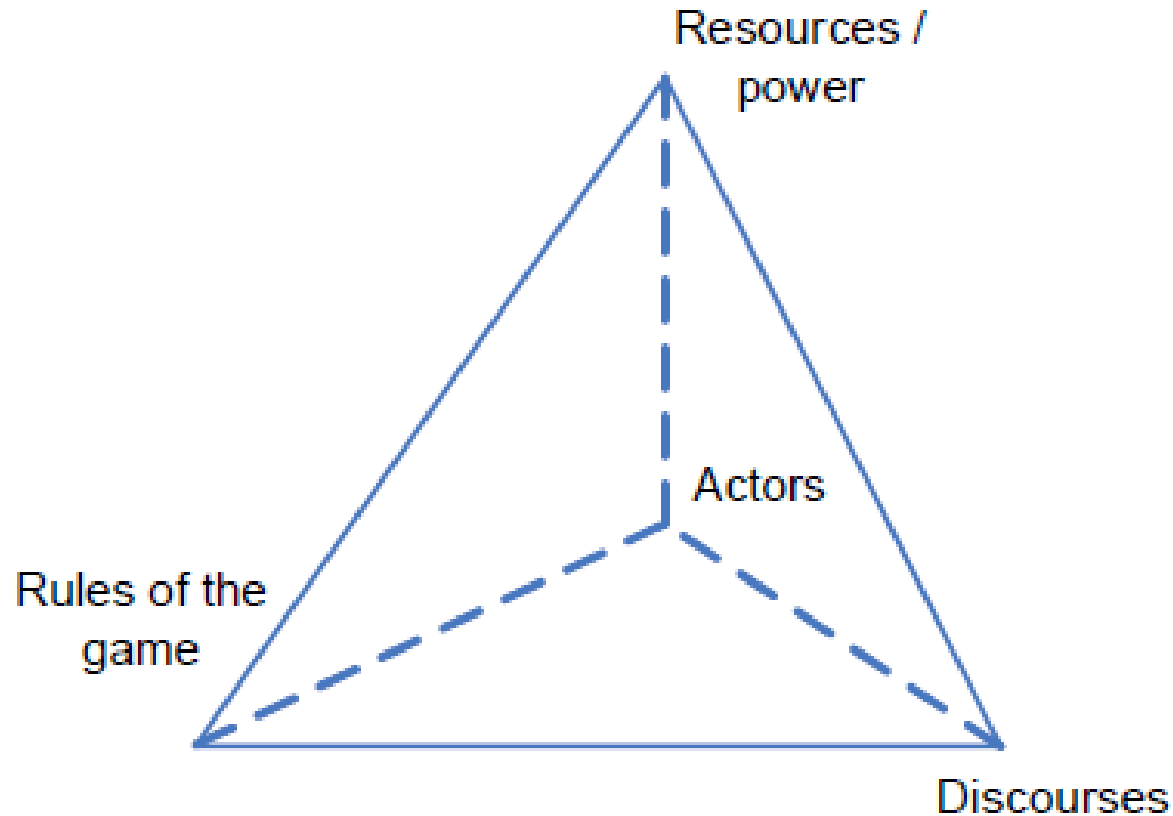
*If you said **yes**, why?*

Word cloud of participants' answers

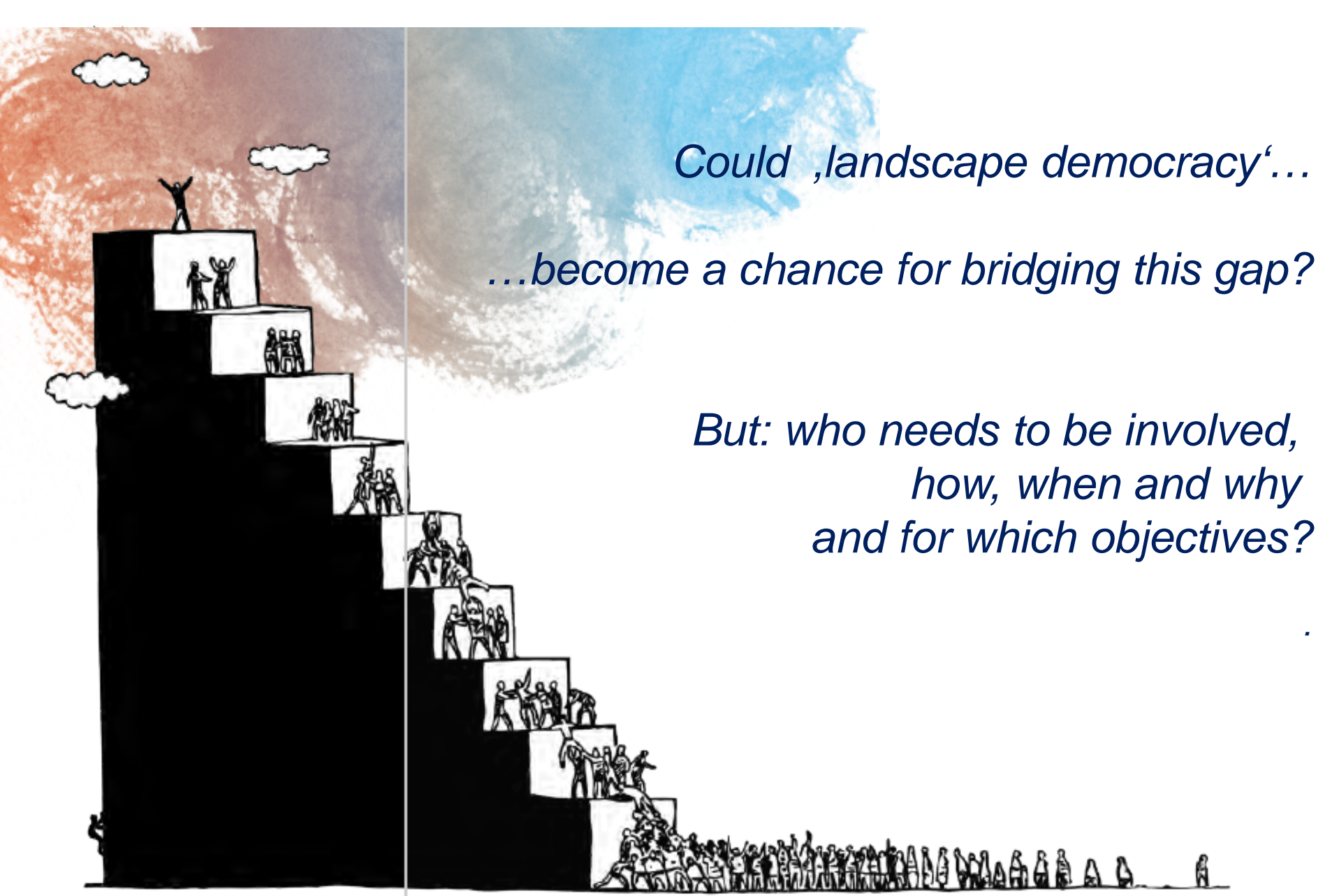


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Landscape action as policy arrangement



Policy arrangement visualized as a tetrahedron from Duncan Liefferink (2006).



Could 'landscape democracy'...

...become a chance for bridging this gap?

*But: who needs to be involved,
how, when and why
and for which objectives?*



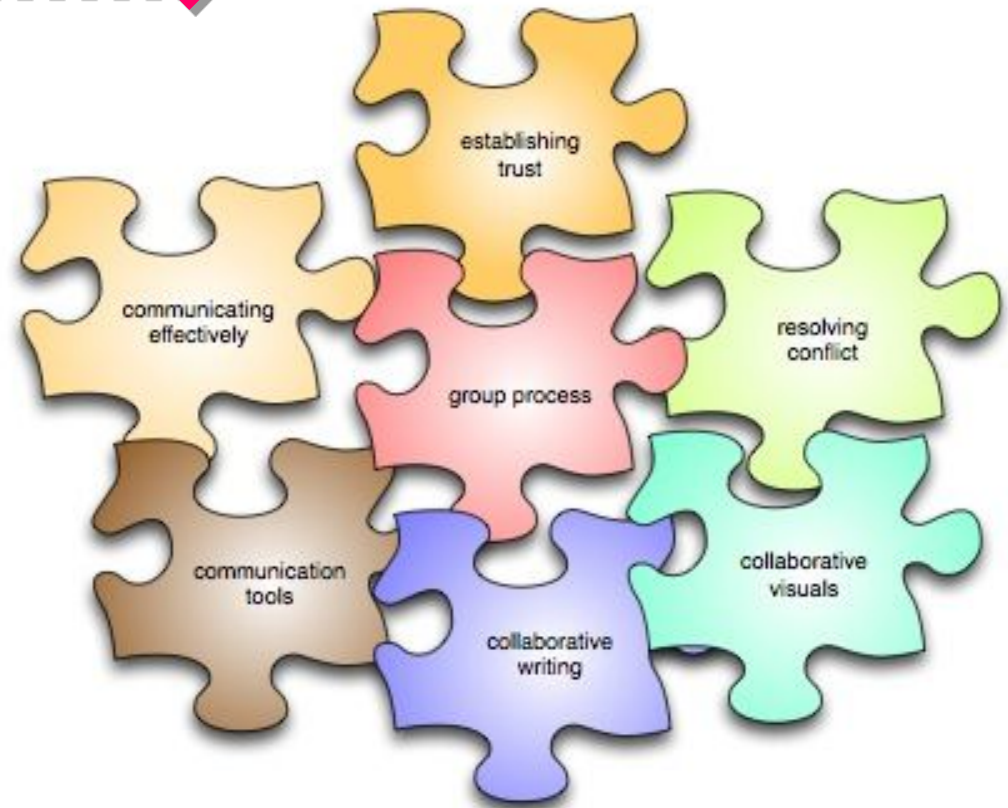
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Seminar assignments and working process

Individual work:



Group work:





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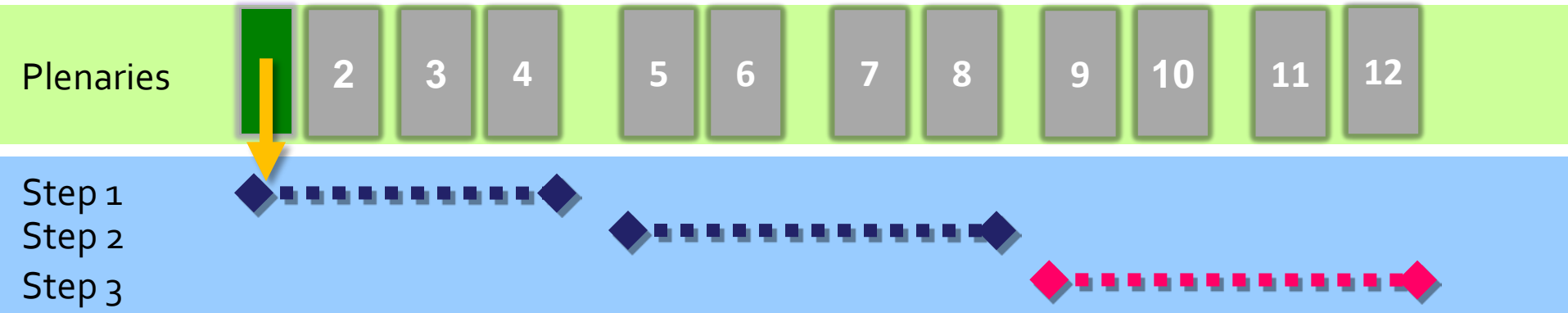
Seminar Process and Assignments

We are here today



Assignment 1:

Reading and Synthesizing Core Terminology



Step 1: Group members select their readings until **25th of April** (→ google spreadsheet)

Step 2: Each member defines three concepts on the group concept map until **23rd of May**

Step 3: As group reflect on the interrelations of the key concepts and report until **6th of June**



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Assignment 1: Reading and Synthesizing Core Terminology

Further explanations (1)

Where will you find the reading lists?

→ on the seminar wiki under ,resources‘

Availability: the materials are either

- open access
- downloadable from the repository after login (will be sent out)
- or you need to retrieve them from your libraries

You will be receiving a link to a **google spreadsheet** where each group can specify their focus readings .



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Assignment 1: Reading and Synthesizing Core Terminology

Further explanations (2)

How to use the concept mapping tool?

A concept map represents graphically the relationships between ideas/concepts and/or individual terms. Both the concepts and their linking words need to be made **explicit**.

You will receive an invitation to join the LED 2016 folder on the **Cmap Cloud** (an open access collaborative mapping tool).

Create a map for your group in this folder and start mapping.

→ *short demo via desktop sharing*



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Assignment 1: Reading and Synthesizing Core Terminology

Questions and answers



Questions?

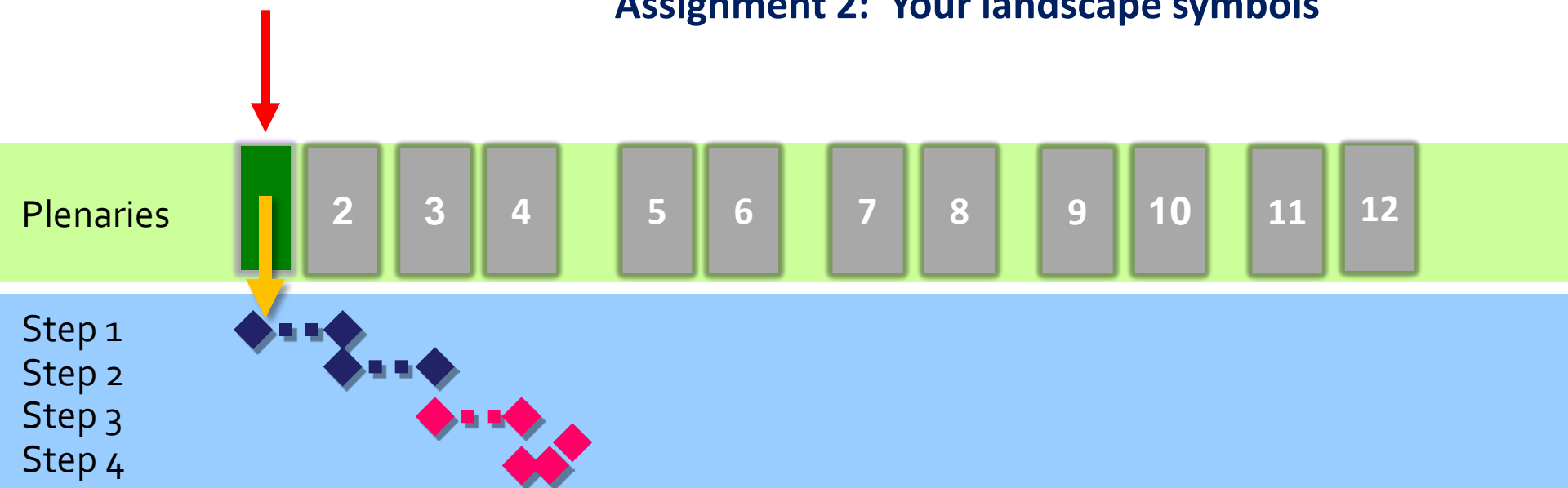


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Seminar Process and Assignments

We are here today

Assignment 2: Your landscape symbols



Step1: Identify landscape symbols and localize them on the wiki until **7th of April**

Step 2: Complete your template on the wiki until **17th of April**

Step 3: Reflect your findings in your group and prepare a presentation until **20th of April**

Step 4: Present your findings in the group plenary on **21st of April**



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Assignment 2: Your landscape symbols *Further explanations (1)*

What are landscape symbols?

The symbols you identify can be a **variety of things**.

They can be sculptures referring to historical or political events, public art, wayfinding, advertisement and marketing signage, religious symbols or the architectural/urban form itself.

We did not put visual examples here in order not to lead you into a certain thematic direction.



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Assignment 2: Your landscape symbols *Further explanations (1)*

Which are the guiding questions for this exercise?

- How and why did the symbols you identify appear in your landscape?
- Did their meaning change along with socio-political, economic, environmental or cultural changes in your region, or country?
- What do these symbols mean to you today?
- Are they meaningful to more than just one cultural group?
- Are they shared across cultures?



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Assignment 2: Your landscape symbols *Further explanations (2)*

How to document the landscape symbols?

- You will receive login data for the wiki within the next days
- Each group will have a group page with links to the group members' ,symbol' pages
- You will find a template for your landscape symbol

Elements of the documentation:

- 2-3 analytical drawings/collages combining your reflections with the visual appearance of the landscape symbols
- 250 words reflective text referring to the guiding questions
- Group presentation: 2 slides per person



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Assignment 2: Your Landscape Symbols

Questions and answers

Questions?





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Seminar Process and Assignments

General overview of the seminar assignments

We are here today



Plenaries

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Assignment 1: Reading and synthesizing core terminology

Assignment 2: Your landscape symbols

Assignment 3: Role play on landscape democracy 'movers and shakers'

Assignment 4: Your landscape democracy challenge

Assignment 5: Your democratic change process



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Next seminar session


**Thursday, 7th of April 2016,
15 30 – 17 00 pm CET**

**A: Landscape and Democracy -
Mapping the Terrain**

**A.2: Concepts of landscape:
Emergence and perspectives**

Session speakers and moderators
Prof. Dr. Diedrich Bruns,
Prof. Dr. Luigi Bartolomei
Dr. Ellen Fetzner





**Thank you very much
for your attention and collaboration!**

*„The future of democracy depends on the extent to which
civil society is prepared to cultivate a democratic way of life.“*

Micha de Winter in ,Civic Learning, Democratic Citizenship and the Public Sphere', 2014